



U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

*An Equal Opportunity and Reasonable
Accommodation Employer*

Announcement #: CSB-00-01
Date Opened: 05/01/00
Date Closed: Open Until Filled

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Agency Contact: Libby Goldsmith, (202) 261-7628 libby.goldsmith@csb.gov

Position Title, Series, and Grade: Chemical Incident Investigator, GS-1801-12/13/14

Location: U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board Headquarters, Washington, DC

Salary and Benefits: 51k to 90k per annum base salary range, depending on qualifications and experience; plus a comprehensive Federal benefits package including health and life insurance, tax deferred retirement savings plan with generous employer matching, 12 paid holidays, and 5 weeks combined vacation and sick leave per year.

Relocation Expenses: Selectees will be eligible for reimbursement of expenses associated with relocation to the Washington, DC area.

Area of Consideration: Open to all qualified candidates nationwide. U.S. citizenship required.

Note to current Federal employees: These positions are in the excepted service and are being filled under Schedule A authority.

Position Summary and Major Duties/Responsibilities:

The mission of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board is to enhance the health and safety of workers and the public, and to protect the environment by uncovering the underlying causes of incidental chemical releases and using these findings and supporting research to promote preventive actions by both the private and public sectors. The Office of Investigations and Safety Programs, where these positions are located, conducts state-of-the-art investigations of carefully selected major incidents involving the accidental release of hazardous materials; produces high-quality, easy-to-read, and timely investigations reports that identify the root and contributing causes of these incidents; conducts hazard, safety and data studies designed to complement the Board's investigation report and recommendation activities; develops and recommends to Board members well-reasoned and precisely targeted recommendations; and, conducts effective advocacy activity for these recommendations. Individuals selected for these positions will serve as recognized experts in industrial chemical safety and incident investigation, and will be responsible for organizing, managing and coordinating the investigation and analysis of major incidents involving the accidental release of hazardous materials, as well as writing, developing and presenting reports with safety recommendations for adoption by the Board. Highly experienced individuals may also serve as Investigator-in-Charge (IIC) and/or functional specialist/lead for major incidents.

Qualification Requirements:

- Mastery of the advanced principles, concepts, theories and practices of industrial chemical incident investigation including site security, evidence and data collection, witness interview, and follow-up activities.
- Authoritative skill and ability to analyze and evaluate data and evidence; conduct incident reconstruction; and determine and identify root and contributing causes of industrial chemical incidents.
- Knowledge of chemical production operations, industrial chemical safety programs, and process safety management programs in the private sector.
- Working knowledge of the characteristics of different types of hazardous materials: potential danger, behavior in incidents, types of reactions, flammability, volatility, etc.
- Ability to provide leadership and expertise in effectively selecting, managing and coordinating investigative teams, maintaining control, and addressing related issues or concerns.
- Authoritative knowledge of federal laws and regulations and industry standards related to chemical safety.
- Ability to effectively interact with diverse groups of individuals and organizations.
- Skill and ability to write and prepare reports of chemical incident investigations, safety studies, responses to Notices of Proposed Rulemakings, and inquiries from Congress, industry and the general public.
- Ability to effectively communicate orally, interview witnesses, make formal presentations and speeches, answer questions from the media, and exchange information with others.

Evaluation Process:

Review of candidates will begin immediately upon receipt of resumes, and will continue on an ongoing basis until all positions are filled. Applicants are encouraged to provide supplemental information specifically addressing the qualification requirements listed above. Selected candidates will be invited to appear for a personal interview in Washington, DC or other location(s) as appropriate following initial review and evaluation of qualifications.

Special Working Conditions and Requirements:

Investigators must be prepared to travel on short notice and may be required to work independently at the scene of an incident documenting information and/or conducting interviews of survivors, witnesses, or other persons indirectly or directly involved in an incident. Investigators are subject to periodic on-call status, and field assignments may involve work at unusual times and/or long hours at incident sites. Field work may also be physically demanding and/or involve exposure to hazardous materials. The ability to work independently, with minimal direction from a supervisor; to work cooperatively with others in pursuit of chemical safety; and willingness and aptitude for continuous learning are all prerequisites for success in this position.

How to Apply:

Resumes and supplemental information may be submitted by hard copy or electronic mail. Send hard copies to: U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, Office of Investigations and Safety Programs, 2175 K Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20037 (ATTN: Libby Goldsmith). Send email submissions to libby.goldsmith@csb.gov

Equal Opportunity and Reasonable Accommodation:

The CSB is an equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation employer. Except where otherwise provided by law, all candidates will be considered without discrimination for any non-merit reason such as race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, disability, or membership or non-membership in an employee organization.